March 3, 2004

Assistant Commissioner of Patents

Washington, DC 20231

## PROTEST UNDER 37 CFR 1.291(a)

Re: Computer and method for maximizing an advertising effect

US File # **20020019901** Filed: December 14, 2000

Sirs:

Recently I found the above referenced patent filing and believe this filing has NOT issued in the U.S. The US File # is 20020019901

I am voicing an objection as a concerned third party and as a U.S. Citizen. The patent filing describes at great length an advertising delivery system using a database containing advertisements retained and maintained at the client level in cache or on disk (0019) in a client-server ad delivery system. This patent relates to displaying advertising by matching voluntary user actions such as turning on the PC or initiating triggers from an "advertising presenting program" (0032) Entering a trigger event into a browser locator window, or conversely turning the client computer OFF if the ad is disregarded (0042), then makes a match with data in the remotely controlled and updated "post session" database and in the event a match is made, appropriate content or advertisement is displayed. This is referred to as "pull" advertising as a voluntary action on the part of a user interacts with a pre-established database and a targeted ad is displayed.

The abstract reads in part, "With this configuration, an advertising effect can be maximized because advertisements can be presented while computers are used off-line."

Relevant Claims are #1, 10 and others in which the inventor refers displaying ads stored at the client level.

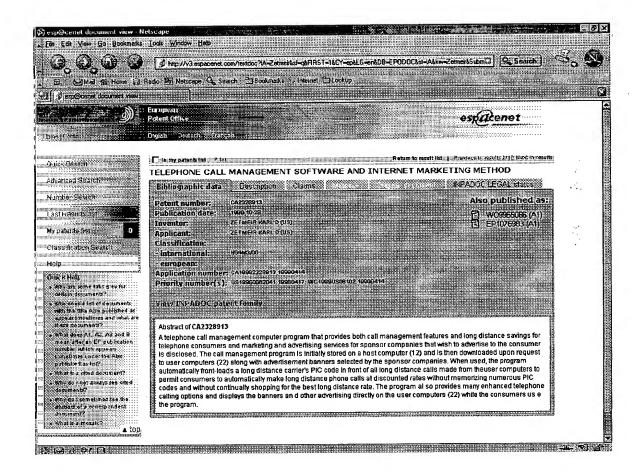
I am objecting to this patent application as it is neither novel nor unique. It is of particular note that prior art submitted does not include references to systems that were commercially offered in 2001. The filers are correct that a targeted system based on interactive actions is more accurate and excels in its ability to deliver "relevant" ads at the exact moment of interest. However, the filers did not include the following references:

1. US Patent 6,141,010 ... equivalent technology

- Gator.com (recently changed to Claria.com) has been marketing such a system since 1998
- 3. WO9955066 (A1) or EP1076983 (A1) ... equivalent technology

There may be more prior art preceding the 12/14/2000 filing.

I believe the Examiner should look very closely at the Claim made and judge accordingly.



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United States Patent 6,141,010
Hoyle October 31, 2000
Computer interface method and apparatus with targeted advertising
Abstract
A method and apparatus for providing an automatically upgradeable software application that includes targeted advertising based upon demographics and user interaction with the computer. The software application is a graphical user interface that includes a display region used for banner advertising that is downloaded from time to time over a network such as the Internet. The software application is accessible from a server via the Internet and demographic information on the user is acquired by the server and used for determining what banner advertising will be sent to the user. The software application further targets the advertisements in response to normal user interaction, or use, of the computer. Associated with each banner advertisement is a set of data that is used by the software application in determining when a particular banner is to be displayed. This includes the specification of certain programs that the user may have so that, when the user runs the program (such as a spreadsheet program), an advertisement will be displayed that is relevant to that program (such as an advertisement for a stock brokerage). This provides two-tiered, real-time targeting of advertising—both demographically and reactively. The software application includes programming that accesses the server on occasion to determine if one or more components of the application need upgrading to a newer version. If so, the components are downloaded and installed without requiring any input or action by the user.
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